STATE OF ARIZONA

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GOVERNOR

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May 8, 2006

The Honorable Jim Weiers
Speaker of the House
Arizona House of Representatives
1700 West Washington
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Re: House Bill 2819: adult probation, county responsibility

Dear Speaker Weiers:

Today, I signed House Bill 2819, related to county responsibility for adult probation.

Although our Judicial Branch has expressed bona fide concerns about this bill, I signed it into law today based on assurances I received from the Chair of the Maricopa County Board of Supervisors that despite this bill, Maricopa County will at least maintain funding for juvenile and adult probation programs at levels that equal or exceed the amount of reduction in Maricopa County's AHCCCS contribution pursuant to A.R.S. § 11-292(P). The County also has committed to do its best to keep probation revocations at approximately their current levels, to share its performance results with the State on a timely basis, and to work closely with my office and the legislature in analyzing the impacts of this legislation. Finally, the County has assured me that despite this bill, it will not raise its surcharges above those imposed by other counties.

Based upon these assurances, I am signing House Bill 2819 into law.

Yours very truly,

Janet Napolitano
Governor

JN:TN/jm

cc: The Honorable Ken Bennett
The Honorable Russell K. Pearce